GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:950
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2002
LINKING OF MAHANADI RIVER WITH SOUTHERN RIVERS
VUKKALA RAJESWARAMMA;YEMPARALA VENKATESWARA RAO

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that linking of Mahanadi river of Orissa with major southern rivers is a viable option for linking of major rivers in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering this proposal: and

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) to (c) In 1980, the Ministry of Water Resources, then known as the Ministry of Irrigation, formulated a National Perspective Plan for water resources development which envisages inter linkages among Peninsular Rivers and HimalayanRivers for transferring water from water surplus basins to water deficit areas for optimum utilisation of water resources. Under the Peninsular component, interlinking of Mahanadi-Godavari-Krishna- Pennar-Cauvery and Vaigai is envisaged.The Governmentof India has established the National Water Development Agency(NWDA)in 1982 as an autonomous society to carryout water balance and other studies and prepare feasibility reports. NWDA has identified30 links under the National Perspectivefor preparation of the feasibility reports and has completed feasibility reports of 6 links under Peninsular Component.